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# “At First”

**First Congregational UCC  
1400 North Elliott Avenue, Glencoe, MN 55336**

**Church phone: 864-3855**

**Church Email: [Office@firstcongochurch.org](mailto:Office@firstcongochurch.org)**

**Church Website: [firstcongochurch.org](http://firstcongochurch.org)**

**Adam Thompson, Pastor**

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March 2024

**Joint UCC Lenten Services - All Services Begin At 7:00 pm**

**March 6th - First Congregational (St. John's/Bongard's doing refreshments)**

**March 13th - St. Paul's, Plato**

**March 20th - Frieden's County Line**



**Come & Celebrate Easter Week With Us!**

**March 28th: 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Communion Service**



**Easter Breakfast**, sponsored by the Deacons, will be served before our **Easter Morning Service on March 31st starting at 7:30 am**. They will be serving waffles, scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage and coffee. This will be a free will offering.

**March 31st: 9:15 am Easter Sunday Worship Service**



**Easter Lilies**

If you would like to purchase a lily in memory of or in honor of a loved one for our **Easter Service on March 31st**, please call the church office @ 864-3855. Price is \$15.00 each. Deadline to order is **March 19th**.

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## Our Sympathy & Prayers

to Ramona Nagel and her family. **Ramona's husband, Ron Aufenthie**, passed away on February 10th and his funeral was held in Marshall on February 17th at the Holy Redeemer Catholic Church.

## One Great Hour of Sharing

On Sunday, March 10, 2024, we will be receiving the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering during worship. The UCC responds to humanitarian and development needs in the world. Gifts to OGHS carries God's message of love and hope to people in crisis. Through our work with local churches, conferences, international partners and organizations, OGHS provides sources of clean water, food, education, health care, small business micro-credit loans, resettlement for refugees and displaced persons, emergency relief and rehabilitation as well as disaster preparedness and response.

## Why Should We Support Church's Wider Missions?

A. To keep the church strong through sharing it's total resources and skills. OCWM ensures that smaller churches and churches lacking sufficient resources can continue to thrive. It also brings UCC Congregations to witness to parts of the U.S. and the world that have no similar expression of Christian witness.

B. To make the most efficient and practical use of money given for mission by utilizing partnership already in place and drawing on a wider range of expertise, experience, and opportunity for mission than is available at the local level.

C. To be a part of something larger than itself. As the congregation at its best is a place for individuals to gather, make connections with others, and develop into a nurturing community, so each congregation needs to gather and make connections with other congregations.

## On the Job in March

Deacon of the Month:

**Randy Warner**

Altar: **Ann Wangerin**



## Happy Birthday!!

### In March

3. Abbie Raiter  
Emelia Kottke
7. Janet Willand  
Devin Forcier
8. Joan Chapman  
Patti Olson  
Joe Adrian
9. Cindy Patnaude  
Brantley Forcier
10. Patricia Schilling  
Christina Bargmann
11. Gale Hoese  
Roxanne Mathews  
Bailey Mathews
16. Helayna Collins
19. Valerie Dahlke
24. Brooke Rowan
26. Grace Patnaude
28. Carmen Kienenberger

## Pastor's Page:

### Marching Towards Easter

As we enter the month of March, we are reminded of the beauty of transition and renewal that this season brings. Just as nature begins to awaken from its winter slumber, we too have the opportunity to awaken our spirits and embrace the blessings that surround us.

Throughout this month, we are called to reflect on the journey of Lent. Lent is a time of introspection, repentance, and preparation for the celebration of Easter. It is a sacred season where we are invited to draw closer to God through prayer, fasting, and acts of service. Let us use this time to deepen our relationship with the Divine and to seek forgiveness and reconciliation in our lives.

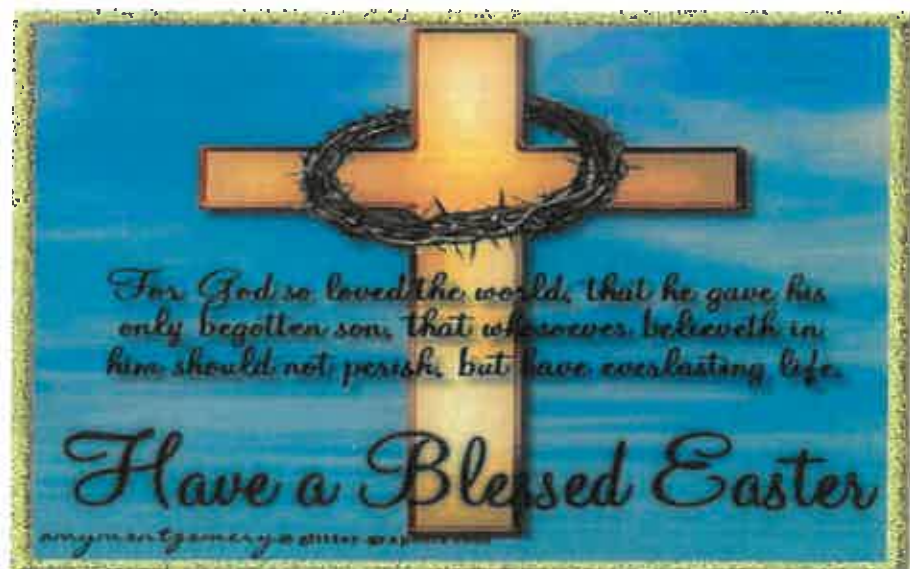
In addition to our Lenten observances, March also brings with it a spirit of gratitude and celebration. As we approach the end of the month, we will come together to celebrate Palm Sunday and to commemorate Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. Let us welcome him into our hearts and lives with the same joy and reverence as those who greeted him with palm branches so long ago.

Finally, I want to express my deepest gratitude to each member of our congregation for your continued support and dedication to our church community and to the community of Glencoe. Your generosity, kindness, and commitment to serving others are a true testament to the love of Christ that dwells within each of you. Together, let us continue to shine the light of God's love into the world and to make a positive difference in the lives of those around us.

May the grace and peace of Jesus be with you all this March and always.

*Blessings!*

*Pastor Adam*



### Mission of the Month

LAK  
General Mills Foundation  
AgriBank  
LAND O LAKES INC.  
ROOTED IN TOMORROW™  
BlueCross BlueShield  
Minnesota  
OLD NATIONAL BANK  
CenterPoint Energy  
UNITEDHEALTH GROUP  
Furniture MART  
McLEOD FOOD SHELF  
Scan me

nurture  
your local food shelf  
MN Food Share  
MARCH CAMPAIGN  
www.mcleodemergencyfoodshelf.org/

## Donate

By Mail, Onsite or online!

Feb 26th-Apr 6th

And your gift is multiplied

by the

## Food Fund!

Donations accepted throughout the campaign period & must be received by 1:00 PM 4/6/24 to multiply

Donation locations & hours:

719 13th St E Glencoe  
498 Hwy 7 E Hutchinson

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 8:00 AM-1:00 PM & Thursday 3:00 PM-8:00 PM

## MOST NEEDED ITEMS



- WHOLE GRAIN CEREAL
- PASTA
- NUTS & NUT BUTTERS
- CANNED FRUITS & VEGGIES
- COOKING & BAKING ITEMS
- MEAL SIDE-DISH ITEMS
- PERSONAL CARE ITEMS
- HOUSEHOLD CARE ITEMS

FINANCIAL GIFTS ALLOW ADDITIONAL FOOD PURCHASES AND FUND PROGRAM EXPENSES



## First Congregational Church

Leadership (Church Council) Team Minutes – January 17, 2024

Revised 2/21/24

Attending: Jim Cox, Stan Hoof, Bridget Kienenberger, Carmen Kienenberger, Kari Warner, Pastor Adam Thompson

Members absent: Troy Lehmann, Jan Willand

1. Call to Order – the meeting was called to order by Stan at 7:00pm
2. Pastor Adam provided the opening prayer.
3. Carmen moved to approve the December minutes, Kari gave the second, motion passed.
4. Pastor's Report: Pastor relayed that his intense class time is over, but will have classes through the summer. The upcoming Lenten schedule will start on 2/14 at First Congregational, 2/21 at Frieden's, 2/28 at First Congregational, 3/6 In Glencoe, hosted by St. Johns/Bongard's, 3/13 at St. Paul's Plato, 3/20 at Frieden's. Maundy Thursday service will be held at individual churches on 3/29, Easter is on 3/31. Joint mission at Feed My Starving Children is being planned for 4/20/24 with other churches from 9:30-11am. Baylor Park joint service/picnic is being planned again this year for 7/14, more info to come. 2B Continued training is scheduled for 2/25 in the Fellowship hall. Advertising will be done to clue people in. Stan would like to show a quick video on Sunday 1/28 with information about Gideons. A Gideon representative will speak on 2/4/24.
5. Team Reports:
6. Resource Team: (trustees) Pledges as of 12/23 are \$5441.00, In 12/22 it was \$10,695 Total  
Income right now = \$90,017 for 2023.  
\$28k in a Miska CD will be put into a money market for heating, tuckpointing and plumbing instead of renewing. The police department have requested that three people be listed as overnight contacts in case of any issues. Stan, Carmen and Jim have agreed to be listed as contacts.
7. Deacons: nothing to report
8. Discipleship Team: will be meeting on 1/31 at 7pm
9. Worship & Welcome Team: meeting on 1/28 after church.
10. Old Business: Meredith from SLS will meet with Wendy and give a QuickBooks disc to her in order to migrate information. Wendy accepted the new position -adding bookkeeping back to the mix of the Office Manager/Clerk/Treasurer. The new position will begin on 2/1/24 with a rate of pay increase given to both Wendy and Ann Wangerin, paid retroactively. Wendy mentioned that she doesn't get communications from groups, boards, committees, etc. Everyone will be directed to ensure that Wendy gets meeting minutes from all groups and will be able to read them to keep up to date on church happenings. Personnel Evaluations – the committee asked Ann for clarification on what is done in terms of custodial hours and what is done during her volunteer hours within the church. She was asked to keep them separate and she agreed to do that.
11. Carmen motioned to adjourn the meeting with Bridget giving the second. Motion passed.
12. Next meeting set for 2/21/24 at 5pm. PLEASE NOTE TIME DIFFERENCE DUE TO LENTEN SERVICES

Minutes Taker – Karl Warner

Lship Team Mtg 1 17 24

## Common Cup News!

### Common Cup Happenings during February

- **First Congo** received special thanks for our January Diaper donations. The Seniors diapers and pads were especially welcomed and given out right away!
- Members and friends at First Congo packed bags for the Weekend Food program in February. While our volunteer piece has ended, we are still encouraged to purchase items from the Food List, available at the Common Cup table in the Connecting Room.
- **Change the Name but the Outcome's the Same!** The Weekend Backpack program, which provides meals to income qualified children in grades pre-K through 8, will now be called the Weekend Food Program, to help distinguish it from the fall school backpack event. The High School provides a similar service to the program Reach-N-Go, coordinated by the school counselors and teachers.
- **Don't Toss Your Expired Food – Donate It to Common Cup!**  
A local farmer is taking the expired food brought in to Common Cup to feed the animals. S/he said even Macaroni and Cheese is a hit on the farm. If you have a large volume it's appreciated if you would bring it the Hutch CC office at 105 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue SW, Apt #2. Their phone is 320-587-2213.
- **A Spring Coat Collection – Plan to donate your outgrown winter gear at the Spring Coat Collection during April.** Coats, boots and snowpants are especially appreciated. We will collect them in the choir room, next to the kitchen.

### Celebrations!

- **Welcome to The Foundation Church of Hutchinson** who have recently joined the Common Cup Program. There are 28 churches participating within McLeod County.
- The **Glencoe Thrift Store celebrated its 7<sup>th</sup> year in business!** During this time it has brought in \$162,000 in profits and \$72,000 through fundraising. Volunteers were treated to lunch on Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> at Unhinged Pizza. (Forty-five percent of sales come from clothing and 65% from furniture and taxable items. Their lease has just been renewed for three more years.)
- **Laundry Love Celebrates 5 years of Service to the Community** – Christ Lutheran Church continues to provide laundry services to those in need in the Glencoe community. Every \$10 donation pays for a load of clothes to be washed and dried.

**Common Cup Questions – Call the Hutchinson Office at 320 587-2213 or visit their website at [www.common-cup.org](http://www.common-cup.org)**

# March 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3 9:15 am Communion Worship Service Confirmation Discipleship Meeting	4	5	6 7:00pm Lenten Service @ First Congregational St. John's/Borgard's doing refreshments	7 8:00pm A.A. Meeting	8	9
10 9:15 am Worship Service Sunday School Confirmation One Great Hour of Sharing Offering Daylight Savings Time Begins - Spring Ahead!	11	12	13 7:00pm Lenten Service @ St. Paul's UCC, Plato	14 8:00pm A.A. Meeting	15	16
17 9:15 am Worship Service Sunday School Confirmation	18	19 Deadline for Ordering Easter Lilies	20 Noon-Trustee's Meeting 5:00pm Church Council Meeting 7:00pm Lenten Service @ Frieder's County Line	21 8:00pm A.A. Meeting	22	23
24 Palm Sunday 9:15 am Worship Service No Confirmation Worship /Welcome Meeting	25	26	27	28 7:00pm Maundy Thursday Communion Service 8:00pm A.A. Meeting	29 Good Friday	30
31 HAPPY EASTER!! 7:30 am Easter Breakfast 9:15 am Easter Worship Service No Confirmation						